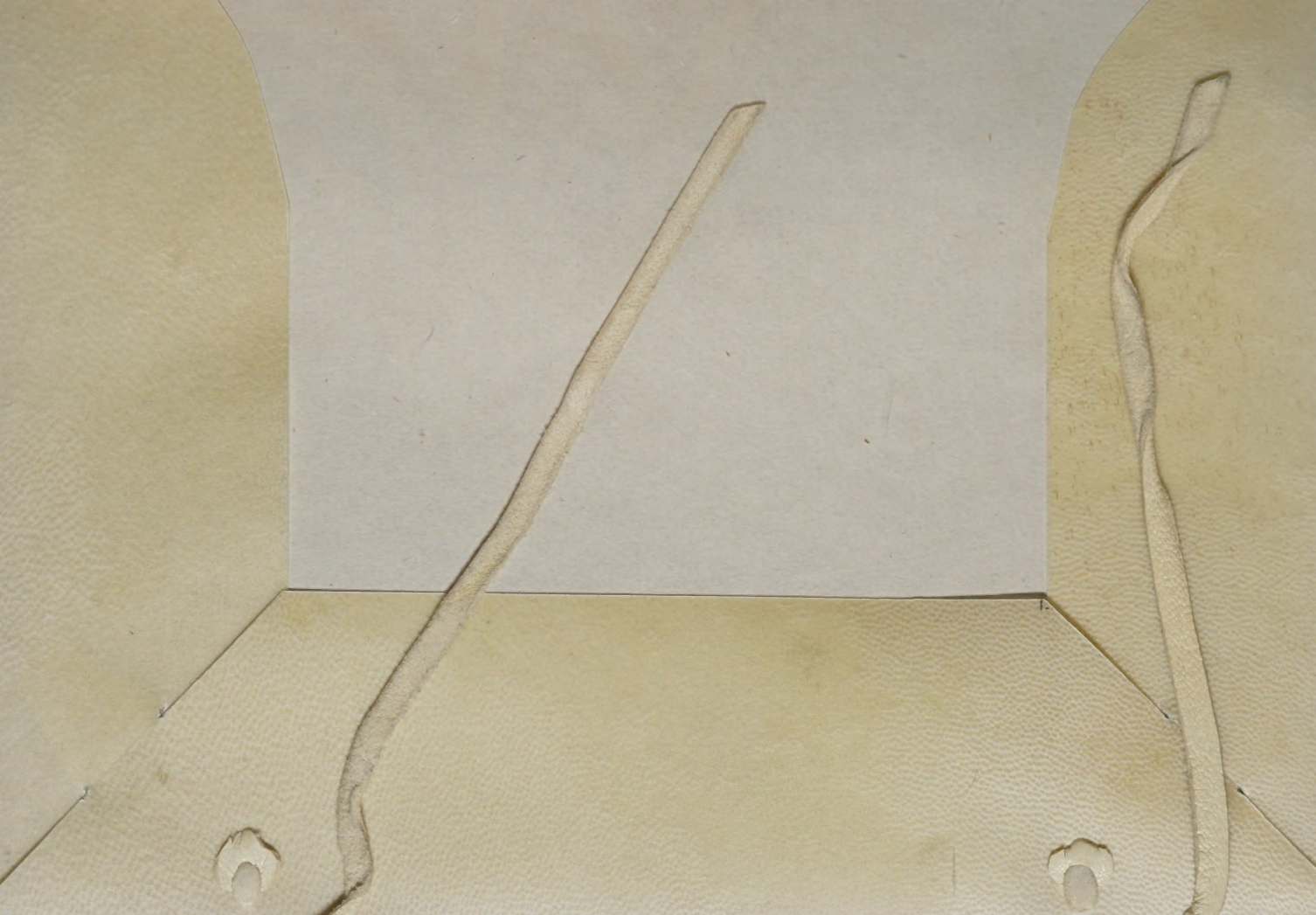


April 24,
2013

My heart is full on
this first day of
reopening Central Library.
Copley Square after
the Marathon tragedy.
We can take comfort
in the way our City and
citizens responded.
The BPL was a
shining light for our
community, and always
will be. Amy Ryan

4/24/2013

My thoughts + prayers are with all affected by this terrible tragedy, especially the victims, first responders, police, firefighters, FBI, and the extraordinary medical staff stationed outside our doors as well as in our hospitals. We will recover + come back stronger.

Susan Glover

April 25, 2013

Our lovely neighborhood was rocked by the sound of bombs, but our people both native to Boston and America and those beyond our shores responded by helping whom and where they could.

To honor those who died, were badly maimed and seriously wounded, may we echo the words of little Martin Richard ~ an 8 year old sage ~

"No more hurting people... Peace."

~ Bob McCarthy

In 1965 Jackie DeShannon Sang
a Song written by Burt Bacharach
"what the world needs now
is love sweet love"
Boston would like to thank the world
for the love Sent

Paul

Great
Job everyone
did during the
cruises. Thanks
to All!
James Frazier
Server Manager

My condolences and prayers for the victims and injured.

My appreciation to the first responders

My optimism as we are healing.

Good overcomes evil.

Joseph L. V. Macina
Boston, MA
April 25, 2013

Boston, a great city & my second homland! I love you always.

Boston Strong!!!

love

Kit

2, Willians Rd.
Lexington, Ma.
02420

April 29, 2013

The square, after so many days still filled with crowd + memorials. The moving scene, together with BPL building will stay with history.

just like the slogan "Boston strong".

Qiling

May 1, 2013

The Boston Public Library is the heart of Copley Square. Now, more than ever, we are a beacon of learning and a window to history's great ideas and treasures. The Leventhal Map Center shares these with everyone who comes through our doors.

Jan Spitz

Boston is my adopted
city but it is, and always
will be, first in my heart!

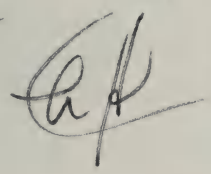
Catherine J. Willis
May 1, 2013

Boston is home. My heart goes out to families, victims, and injured. We will get through this tragedy as a community. Libraries serve people in communities and neighborhoods. I love this city and the people here. Libraries will be beacons of hope and support. The residents of Boston need their libraries during this difficult time.

One Boston,

Dan Preusser

Can't wait for next years Marathon! God bless the Families and victims that lost lives and injuries. Boston will be able to recover and grow from this tragic event



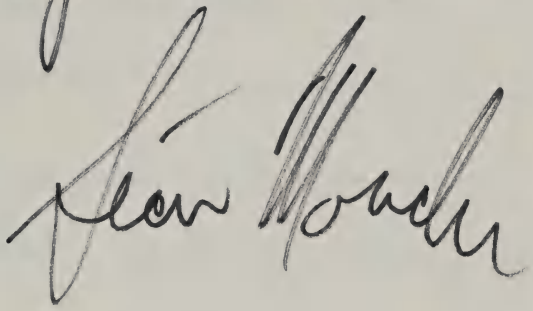
5/1/13

On Patriots Day, you ran towards Victory while evil walked among you. In a flash it vented its fury, the wounded + the dead laid all around you. You didn't let evil win, you continued your race towards Victory. Racing not towards a finish line but into the face of evil. Grabbing evil's victims + racing them towards healing + hope. That day you were "Boston Strong"! It doesn't matter if you come from Boston, the US or some other country, you're "Boston Strong." You will forever be a part of Boston, brothers + sisters united. Warriors who showed the world what courage is and that humanity is alive + well despite the news to the contrary. Thank you for being our heroes, for showing us that evil can try to command us but never will! Because of your actions that day, we now have before us an example of humanity, what it can + should be no matter the circumstances. Our hearts + prayers will be with you all forever. We all are eternally grateful to you.

Cheryl Delaney

5/2/2013

Thanks To all The
first responders —



We at the BPL honor the memory of those who lost their lives, and all those affected by the tragedy.

We are thankful for those who helped, and stood in support and for the sense of unity and community that resulted, long may it last

Daniel Lund.

May the library forever provide protection against – and refuge from – senseless acts of violence and those who turn their backs on liberty and freedom. "Commonwealth requires the education of the people as the safeguard against tyranny."

– Ella Eyler

5/16/13

Peace To all of
us and God's
blessings To those
affected. Time
will take of
everything, —
no matter
the length of
Time.

JoAnn
Butler
5/10/13

God Blessings for the Whole world. Dans L. Brown

I Love the
City of Books
and Love all
The People in it

God Bless
us All

MaryAnn Veale
2013

God Blessing
to All.

Valerie

My heart goes out to
all affected by the
horrific events that
took place on April 15th
w/ Bostonians and
marathoners, will
stand strong.

(Wanna
Prayers always
:)

5/15/13

Knowing there
are people out there
that are willing to help
during any crisis is a great thing
to know. Thanks to all who
helped in any way possible.
Bless you all —

Sue Russell
South Boston
Branch

My heart is with
all whom
were afflicted —
while there or
at home.

May 15, 2013

Just visited the memorial on the one month anniversary's my heart is heavy thinking about that devastation that day. But my heart is proud of this town, Boston for how strong they've stood. God Speed to those who died and God help those who survived.

Judy Hartnett

For the words of 8-year old Richard Martin:
"No more hurting people - peace." Words to live by.
We'll be back on April 21, 2014 stronger
than ever. — Nancy Grieb

16 August 2013

Four months have passed and
still we grieve and heal.
God bless everyone and let's treat
each other with the kindness
and dignity we'd all hope for.

Sue Ann Applegate

8-16-13

So being there at the marathon that day on the bleachers cheering my Uncle and many others on. I just Thank God my family and I are safe... just left like 20 mins before this terrible tragedy! But again my heart was torn for the victims and their families long live the survivors and long live Boston Strong!! May the victims RIP to!!

Lisa Rowland

Apr 24, 2013

Hi ——,

Everyone who works for the Library is okay, thankfully. The Library is always closed on Patriots' Day (Marathon Monday), so there were mainly some off-duty staff members in the building watching the marathon and some on-duty custodial staff at the time of the bombings. All were safe. Some staff were in the crowd out on the Street, watching, but they, too, escaped harm. We were all lucky.

The BPL has two buildings, the McKim (1895) and the Philip Johnson (1972) buildings. I work on the third floor of the Johnson building on the Boylston Street side

I can step out on the balcony just outside my office and look down on the Finish Line. A large plate glass window just outside my door in Technical Services was blown out with the impact of the explosion.

Today was my first day back to work, after more than a week of "sheltering in place," until the shooting of the MIT officer, the shoot-out in Watertown, and the discovery of the young suspect in the boat in a yard in Watertown two streets away from where I once lived.

And then we just had to be patient and wait for the FBI and the police to clear the "major crime scene," Copley Square - the place I have worked for over forty years.

all so close to home!

I am missing the first day of the Mass. Library Conference because I need to come back to work, to come back to "normal," whatever that is now. The conference is in Cambridge at the Hyatt Regency, and many streets over there are closed due to the memorial service for the MIT officer who was killed - Joe Biden will be attending this service.

This morning our library president, top managers and trustees had a staff meeting before our delayed opening of the Library. They provided a continental breakfast and a forum to talk about what had happened.

In a word it's all still very surreal. At lunchtime the N.E.C. sent some musicians to play in our courtyard, but I was busy and unfortunately I missed that. Around 2:30 I went out into the bright sunshine and visited the makeshift memorial in Copley Square's Trinity Place. There were mountains of flowers and teddy bears, t-shirts from schools and sports teams hung up over a fence, and a whole little wall of running shoes of all sizes and colors tied together by their shoelaces and hung from the top. There was a large banner from Guatemala, a tree decorated with

a green Starbuck's apron that had signatures all over it. There were signed baseballs, and two large easels with poster boards front and back, where people could write whatever they wanted to express - and there was not a square inch that had not been inscribed. There were many people slowly milling about near the memorial and all over the Square and the Finish Line. There was a very visible and reassuring police presence.

It was a day of vivid memories and impressions. We were all glad to get back to work and just to see each other again.

I can see how much this event has affected virtually everyone across the country and many in the world, and not just here in Boston. It's another Great Rift in the fabric of our lives, like the September 11 terrorist attacks were in 2001. There will be a "Before" and an "After." And I wonder, How will those people heal who lost a limb or more, or who lost a loved one that day?

But then I keep telling myself, It's Springtime... and, Don't miss all the magnolias and tulips and daffodils on Comm. Ave. on your walk to work. And I know we'll all help each other heal.

Sincerely, Nancy R. Browne
(Chief of Cataloging)

April 25, 2013

I was saddened by the ~~Monday~~ events from last Monday. I can not find words to accurately describe how I felt and feel now. I hope the victim's and the victims' ~~families~~ families find peace. It's hard to string my thoughts together Sometimes knowing that some people want to hurt others. But I was touched by the overwhelmingly positive response from our community over the last week. More thoughts and prayers and well wishes than I thought. While the bombing angered me, the care that Boston has shown (and it's strength) reminds me that not all people are bad. I hope the victims realize that too

- Amber DeAngelis
Kirstein Business Library

April 25, 2013

It's hard to find the words to describe how I feel at a time like this. The tragedy of April 15, 2013 will forever remain heavy in my heart. I will not forget how sick I felt when I heard of the attacks on our city nor will I forget the feeling of pride that washed over me when I saw the courageous actions of our police, first responders, and ordinary citizens. I've wondered before how people would react in times of crisis, but I will never wonder again because I now know that I live in a city of people with such good-hearted souls they can outshine even the blackest of tragedies.

Alissa Link
Rare Books and Manuscripts
Department

Coming back to work on April 24, 2013 was difficult. I stood outside on the library on Boylston street and looked across the street at the site of the first bombing with tears beginning in my eyes. There are some touching makeshift memorials in the park and scattered on the streets.

Boston, we are healing!

B

April 29th, 2013

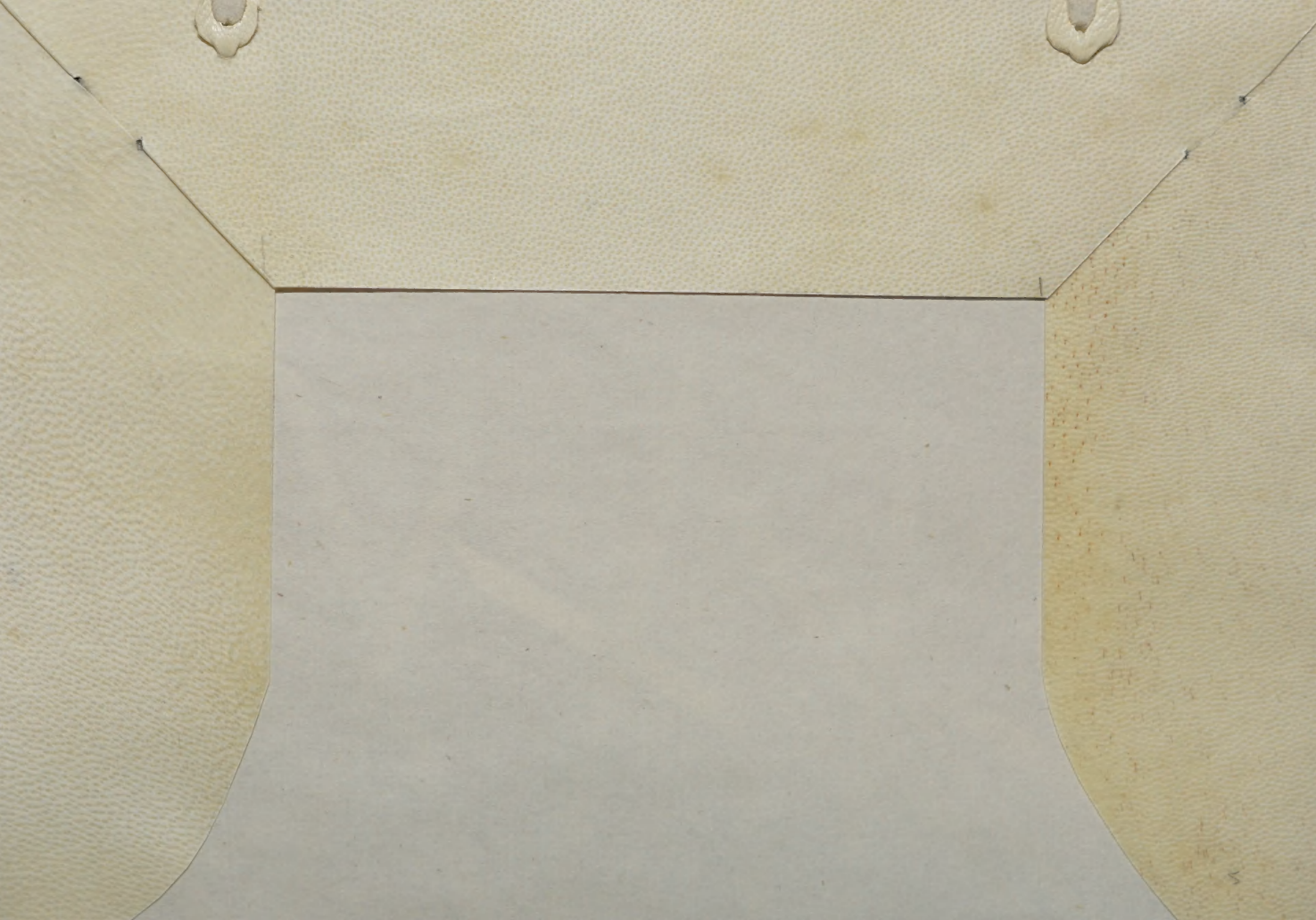
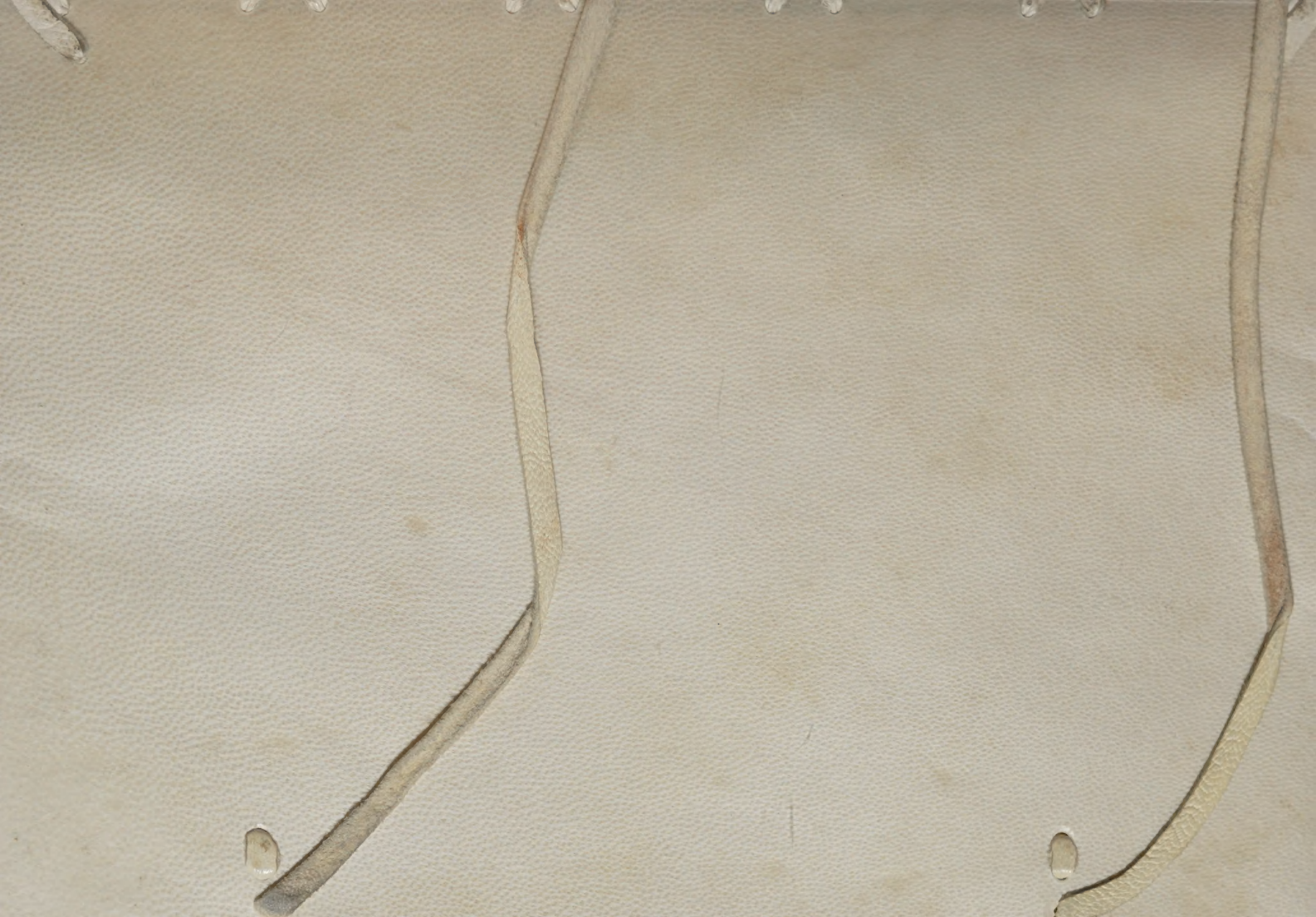
It seems all I hear these days are helicopters; Sirens from ambulances carry a new historical context, something heavy and unknown. I spent a week in April in my bedroom alone, wondering what the physical race is doing, becoming.

My heart, mind, and words go out to the victims' families and to anyone who still feels stuck, lost, or weighed down by confusion.

Andrew Misler
Rare Books & Manuscripts Dept.

I am so proud to be a part of this amazing city. Those who were injured and those who lost loved ones are always in my thoughts - it is their strength that was the most amazing thing to witness. Thank you to the first responders and civilians who took care of the people hurt.

Thank you, thank you.

Samantha S.
UMass-Boston
Graduate - MA student
English dept.

"Boston Strong!"